

65-7250

EYES ONLY

10 December 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Sherman Kent

1. My remarks at the Morning Meeting about the most recent estimate on the India/Pakistan problem were in no sense meant to be derogatory of the estimate itself. I am keenly aware of the hard labor which went into the creation of this paper -- perhaps more so than some other national intelligence estimates.

2. The purpose of this note is to make it clear to you that what I had in the back of my mind was my earlier communication of 5 August in which I asked for your views on ways and means of making our most important national intelligence product more useful to the busy policy maker. I know you will agree with me that the importance of this subject has not diminished, and I do not mean to suggest for a moment that you have not given it thought. I simply wish to underline that we must not lose sight of this objective at a time when the request for meaningful answers to serious problems are coming thicker and faster than ever before.

3. I continue to be concerned that an estimate which is discursive and interlarded with "uncrisp" footnotes will not receive the attention it deserves.

For Richard Helms

Richard Helms
Deputy Director

RHelms/ecd - 10 Dec 65
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